New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Fish, Wildlife, and Marine Resources Wildlife Pathology Unit 108 Game Farm Road, Delmar, NY 12054



February 9, 2005

Ms. Marcia Fabiano Columbia County Department of Health 71 North Third Street Hudson, New York 12534

RE: Screech Owl COL040023

Dear Ms. Fabiano:

Personal privacy information

The following is a summary of history and findings for this case.

<u>History</u>: Found dead at ______, Town of Stockport, City of Hudson (Columbia County), New York on June 17, 2004.

 $\underline{\text{Findings}}$: A nestling, female, screech owl with a gross weight of 119 grams. The skeletal muscle and heart were pale and anemic looking. There were not traumatic injuries and traces of insects in the ventriculus. Because of the extreme pallor, a screen for rodenticides was ordered.

<u>Virology</u>: (Test for West Nile Virus was done by the ARBO Virus Laboratory of the New York State Department of Health). As you know from the Health Information Network, the owl was negative for West Nile Virus by PCR, VecTest, and RAMP.

<u>Toxicology</u> (See attached laboratory report(s) from the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Disease Laboratory, Centralia, Illinois): Brodifacoum was found at .63 ppm in the liver.

<u>Diagnosis</u>: Extreme anemia with the anticoagulant rodenticide Brodifacoum as the probable cause of death.

<u>Comments</u>: Incoming birds from county health departments were primarily being checked for West Nile Virus for monitoring the location of that virus. A lack of toxicology funds delayed my ordering the needed test until December, 2004.

IsBreed 2/28/05

This is an important case because it continues to show elevated levels of Brodifacoum in New York State birds of prey. Brodifacoum needs further restrictions, and in my view, from the existing literature and data base banning from use.

Sorry for the delay.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ward B. Stone Wildlife Pathologist

Attachment(s)

WBS:rd

cc: J. Mastrota (USEPA)

- A. Johnsen
- L. Skinner

Toxicant Case Binder

Diagnostic findings may not be used for publication without the pathologist's knowledge and consent.



Bureau of Animal Disease Laboratory ● 9732 Shattuc Rd. ● Centralia, IL 62801-5858 ● 618/532-6701 ● Fax 618/532-1195

Accession No: 338222

TOXICOLOGY DIAGNOSTIC

DR WARD STONE **NEW YORK WILDLIFE 108 GAME FARM ROAD** DELMAR NY 12054

Date Submitted: 1/5/2005

Date Reported: 1/24/2005

PH: 518-4783032 FAX: 518 - 4783035

Sample ID

Family:

Species:

Breed:

Sex:

Age:

Wt:

COL040023

Raptor

Owl

Screech

Notes:

LABORATORY FINDINGS **TOXICOLOGY RESULTS:**

COL040023 Liver RODENTICIDE SCREEN: Brodifacoum - .63 ppm

THE FOLLOWING TOXINS ARE INCLUDED IN THE RODENTICIDE SCREEN

FUMARIN

DIPHACINONE

RACUMIN

PINDONE

WARFARIN

VALONE

COUMACHLOR

CHLOROPHACINONE

DIFENACOUM

BROMADIOLONE

BRODIFACOUM

DIFETHIALONE

JS 1/24/2005

Tames R. Stedelin, Chemist